

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is meant to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-19, drawn to a self inflating container, classified in class 383, subclass 3.
- II. Claims 20-40, drawn to a method of expanding a container, classified in class 53, subclass 403.

Applicant respectfully elects Invention II, claims 20-40. Claims 1-19 have been canceled herein, without prejudice, and will be pursued in a divisional application.

The Examiner also required Applicant under 35 USC 121 to elect among the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species A: Figs. 1-3

Species B: Figs. 4-6

Species C: Figs. 7 & 8

Applicant respectfully elects Species C, Figs. 7 & 8, and claims 36-40 readable thereon. Claims 20-35 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice, and will be pursued in a divisional application.

The Examiner also required Applicant under 35 USC 121 to elect among the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species a: fill material is a gas

Species b: fill material is a liquid

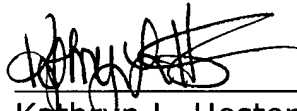
Species c: fill is a granular

Applicant respectfully elects Species a, fill material is a gas, and claims 36-40 readable thereon. Claims 36-40 are all generic for this species requirement.

CONCLUSION

This is meant to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2004. Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 36-40 are patentable over the art of record and are in a condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, or the remarks contained herein, Applicant's agent would welcome the opportunity to discuss such matters with the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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